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10/723,755	11/26/2003	Keith B. Stobie	13768.459	9956
47973 7590 12/26/2007 WORKMAN NYDEGGER/MICROSOFT 1000 EAGLE GATE TOWER EXAMINER WEI, ZHENG			INER	
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60 EAST SOU' SALT LAKE O	TH TEMPLE CITY, UT 84111		ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/723,755	STOBIE ET AL.	
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit	
·	Zheng Wei	2192	
The MAILING DATE of this communication app Period for Reply	pears on the cover sheet with the c	orrespondence address	
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DA - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.13 after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period w - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	ATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION 36(a). In no event, however, may a reply be tin vill apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from , cause the application to become ABANDONE	N. nely filed the mailing date of this communication. D (35 U.S.C. § 133).	
Status			
 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 Set 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This 3) Since this application is in condition for allower closed in accordance with the practice under Exercise. 	action is non-final. nce except for formal matters, pro		
Disposition of Claims			
4) Claim(s) 2-17,23-40 and 42-44 is/are pending if 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdraw 5) Claim(s) is/are allowed. 6) Claim(s) 2-17,23-40 and 42-44 is/are rejected. 7) Claim(s) is/are objected to. 8) Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or	vn from consideration.		
Application Papers			
9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner 10) ☑ The drawing(s) filed on 23 November 2003 is/an Applicant may not request that any objection to the Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner 11.	re: a) \square accepted or b) \square objected or by accepted or by accepted or by accepted in abeyance. See ion is required if the drawing(s) is object.	e 37 CFR 1.85(a). ected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).	•
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119			
12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents 2. Certified copies of the priority documents 3. Copies of the certified copies of the prior application from the International Bureau * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of	s have been received. s have been received in Application ity documents have been receive I (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).	on No ed in this National Stage	
Attachment(s)			
 Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date 	4) Interview Summary Paper No(s)/Mail Da 5) Notice of Informal P 6) Other:	te	

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office PTOL-326 (Rev. 08-06)

Remarks

- 1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 09/28/2007 has been entered.
- 2. This office action is in response to the amendment filed on 09/28/2007.
- 3. Claims 1, 21, 22 and 41 have been cancelled.
- 4. Claims 2, 13, 15-17 and 23-24 have been amended.
- 5. Claims 42-44 have been added.
- 6. Claims 2-20, 23-40 and 42-44 remain pending and have been examined.

Response to Arguments

- 7. Applicant's argument filed on 09/28/2007, in particular on page 15, has been fully considered but they are not persuasive. For example:
 - At page 15 first paragraph, applicant argues that present specification including APA does not teach that a test is run without producing recorded output. The applicant further points out that APA, at paragraphs[0006]-[009] indicates that stress tests did produce recorded output and it was ignored by the Examiner. However, the Examiner respectfully disagrees. The APA

> disclosure has already been fully considered. It should be noted that the output could be generated by applicant/system being tested or by test case (record testing result). The APA (paragraph [0009]) discloses that "an insert record stress test case simply ignores the output produced or recorded...". Same as in the previous office action, the Examiner's position is that the term "refraining from producing any recorded output" [emphasis added] can be reasonable interpreted as – the generated output by tested application/system is ignored and is not recorded by the test case, thus without producing any recorded output--. As APA disclosed at paragraph [0009], "ignores the output produced [emphasis added] or recorded [emphasis added]", "or recorded" is not a must have condition, the stress test can just simply ignore the output and without being recorded. Therefore, APA does disclose the feature limitation about "refraining from producing any recorded output" in the claims 17 and 25. On the other hand, assume that APA discloses test case producing recorded output during prior art stress test. It is still obvious that if said test case can be implemented to generate recorded output, of course it also can be implemented not to produce recorded output. Because it is just a different implementation to produce or not produce recorded output.

Claim Objections

8. Claims 15, 16 and 44 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Applicant is required to cancel the claim(s), or amend the claim(s) to place the claim(s) in proper dependent form, or rewrite the claim(s) in independent form. Claims 15, 16 and 44: These claims depend on claim 1 which has been cancelled by the Applicant. For the purpose the Examiner treats these claims as dependent claims of Claim 17.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

- 9. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
 - (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
- 10. Claims 13-17, 25, 39 and 44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over <u>Johnson</u> (Johnson et al., US 2004/0073890 A1) in view of the admitted prior art (APA) of paragraph [0007] of Applicant's background.

Claim 17:

<u>Johnson</u> discloses, in a computer system that includes software under test, a method of verifying the software with one or more tunable test cases that are

capable of being set to any of a plurality of verification levels, the method comprising steps for:

- loading one or more test cases that include a plurality of software testing instructions organized as a plurality of verification levels within a verification hierarchy, wherein at least two verification levels within the verification hierarchy define different amounts of testing to perform for determining if the software functions as intended when executed (see for example, Figure 2, from step 32, "Test Engineering" to step 34, "Project Engineering", "Test Cases" and related text);
- receiving verification setting instructions for one or more desired verification levels from within the verification hierarchy for use in testing the software, wherein the received verification setting instructions select the one or more desired verification levels from a group of verification levels that include at least first and second verification levels, (see for example, Figure 2, step about passing "Configuration Information" to step 34, "Project Engineering" and related text); and
- testing the software at the one or more desired verification levels, which include at least one of the first and second verification levels, by running the one or more test cases that include the plurality of software testing instructions that correspond to the one or more desired verification levels (see for example, Figure 2, step 36 "Project Testing" and related detailed steps and text).

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But does not explicitly disclose wherein selection of the first verification level causes the one or more test cases to be run during testing and which includes invoking an insert record object to determine if the invocation of the insert record object results in a system crash and while refraining from producing any recorded output, and wherein selection of the second verification level causes the one or more test cases to invoke an insert record object and to additionally verify through recorded output that a record corresponding to the insert record object was properly inserted and present.

However, APA discloses the stress test that simply ignores any testing output if system doesn't crash when the insert record object is run (see for example, paragraph [0009]). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify and run <u>Johnson's</u> test case without producing any recorded output. Because, the test output is not important and the system does not analyze the output as pointed out by APA (see for example, page 4, paragraph [0009], "the system does not analyze the output"). One would have been motivated to do so to make test procedure more efficient as suggest by APA (see for example, paragraph [0009], "Producing the output in the first place, however, impacts the system, so it would be better not to produce it in the first place.")

Claim 13:

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<u>Johnson</u> further discloses the method of claim 17, wherein at least a portion of at least one of the plurality of software instructions determines that software information is available and uses the information for troubleshooting the software if it is determined that the software does not function as intended when executed (see for example, Figure 2, step 3-5 of "Project Testing 36", "Record Results", "Report Issues", "Provide Test Case Feedback when necessary" and related text).

Claim 14:

Johnson also discloses the method of claim 13, wherein the software information available is debug information (see for example, Figure 2, step 3-5 of "Project Testing 36", "Provide Test Case Feedback when necessary" and related text, also see, p.3, paragraph [0023], "As tests are run and results recorded, report are issued to test engineering for tracking test progress and adapting tests with feedback").

Claim 15:

Johnson and APA discloses the method of claim 17, but do not explicitly disclose wherein a portion of the one or more test cases that corresponds to the one or more desired verification levels does not produce any testing output.

However, APA discloses the stress test that simply ignores any testing output if system doesn't crash when the insert record object is run (see for example.

paragraph [0009]). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify and run <u>Johnson</u>'s test case for simple stress tests without producing any output. Because, the test output is not important and the system does not analyze the output as pointed out by APA (see for example, page 4, paragraph [0009], "the system does not analyze the output"). One would have been motivated to do so to make test procedure more efficient as suggest by APA (see for example, paragraph [0009], "..., so it would be better not to produce it in the first place.")

Claim 16:

Johnson further discloses the method of claim 17, wherein the portion of the one or more test cases that corresponds to the one or more desired verification levels produces one or more test outputs for verifying the software (see for example, Figure 2, step 3-5 of "Project Testing 36", "Record Results", "Report Issues", "Provide Test Case Feedback when necessary" and related text).

Claim 25

Claim 25 is a computer program product version of claimed method in claim 17 above, wherein all claimed limitations have been address and/or set forth above by <u>Johnson</u> and APA. Therefore, as the references teach all the limitation, they also teach the limitations of claim 25. Thus, it also would have been obvious.

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Claim 39:

Johnson and APA disclose the method of claim 25, but does not discloses wherein the portion of the one or more test cases that corresponds to the one or more desired verification levels does not produce any testing output.

However, APA discloses the stress test that simply ignores any testing output if system doesn't crash when the insert record object is run (see for example, paragraph [0009]). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify and run Johnson's test case for simple stress tests without producing any output. Because, the test output is not important and the system does not analyze the output as pointed out by APA (see for example, page 4, paragraph [0009], "the system does not analyze the output"). One would have been motivated to do so to make test procedure more efficient as suggest by APA (see for example, paragraph [0009], "..., so it would be better not to produce it in the first place.")

Claim 44:

Johnson and APA disclose A [The] method as recited in claim 1 [17], Johnson further discloses wherein the method further includes upon detecting and adverse or unexpected result form testing the software, determining of which of the test cases has caused the adverse or unexpected result is accomplished by isolating the plurality of test case within the test group and running each of the isolated test cased individually (see for example, p.2-3, paragraph [0020], "the

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number of tests and results for tests performed under a predetermined test case or configuration is traceable to view how many times the test case or configuration was used, passed or failed"; also see paragraph [0023], "As tests are run and results recorded, reports are issued to test engineering for tracking test progress and adapting test with feedback"; also see paragraph [0023], "After repetitions of the test cases, test engineers may view results to update test case where testing failures are encouraged by test case faults...").

11. Claims 2-12 and 23-24, 18-20, 26-38, 40 and 42-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over <u>Johnson</u> (Johnson et al., US 2004/0073890 A1) in view of the admitted prior art (APA) of paragraph [0007] of Applicant's background and in further view of <u>Ruffolo</u> (Ruffolo et al., US 2003/0196190 A1).

Claim 2:

Johnson and APA disclose the method of claim 17, wherein a first test case from the one or more test cases is part of a first test group, the first test group including one or more software testing instructions organized as one or more verification levels within the verification hierarchy, and wherein the verification settings (configurations) that define one or more desired verification levels (Test Iteration) for the first test group (Test Plan) (see for example, Figure 1B, element 30, "Configurations", element 28, "Test Plan", "Test Case", element 26 "Test Iteration" and related text).

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But do not disclose the verification settings defining a desired verification level for the one or more test cases. However, Ruffolo in the same analogous art of test case generation discloses building different verification level (test items) of test case based on verification settings (distribution list) (see for example, Fig.4, step S406-S412 and relate text). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to define the verification settings for the test case in the configuration file to further customize the verification level of each test case. One would have been motivated to do so to customize each test case for the project as suggested by Johnson (see for example, Figure 2, step 2a of "Project Engineering 34" – "Customize Test Cases for the project").

Claim 3:

<u>Johnson</u>, APA and <u>Ruffolo</u> disclose the method of claim 2, <u>Johnson</u> further discloses the method comprising acts of:

identifying a portion of the one or more software testing instructions within the first test group that corresponds to the one or more desired verification levels (see for example, p.1, paragraph [0010], "A test iteration engine aligns a test case or set of test cases with a configuration to present a matrix view of one or more test cells that guide testing of an information handling system having the identified configuration, also see Figure 1B, element 26, "Test Iteration", element 28, "Test Plan", element 30, "Configurations" and related text)

> running a portion of the first test group that corresponds to the one or more desired verification levels (see for example, Figure 2, step 36 "Project
> Testing" and related detailed steps and text).

Claim 4:

Johnson, APA and Ruffolo disclose the method of claim 3, Johnson also discloses, wherein the verification settings (configurations) define a single desired verification level for the first test case and the first test group (see for example, Figure 1B, "Configuration B" of element 30 "Configurations", using single configuration to cover all test cases in "Test Plan 28", also see related text descriptions).

Claims 5 and 7:

Johnson, APA and Ruffolo disclose the method of claim 3, but do not explicitly disclose that the verification settings defined verification level for the first/second test cases are different from a desired verification level for the first test group. However, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to understand that the verification levels of the first/second test cases and test group are different, because each test groups comprises one or more test cases, each test cases can be customized to different verification level to test different degree or portion of software

component based on different configurations as discussed above. Therefore, verification levels of the test case and test group can be different.

Claim 6:

Johnson, APA and Ruffolo disclose the method of claim 4, but do not explicitly disclose that the verification settings defined verification level for the second test case are different from a desired verification level for the first test group.

However, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to understand that the verification levels of the first/second test cases and test group are different, because each test groups comprises one or more test cases, each test cases can be customized to different verification level to test different degree or portion of software component based on different configurations as discussed above. Therefore, verification levels of the test case and test group can be different.

Claim 8:

<u>Johnson</u>, APA and <u>Ruffolo</u> disclose the method of claim 7, but do not explicitly disclose that the verification settings defined verification level for the first/second test cases are different.

However, it <u>would</u> have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to understand that the verification levels of the first/second test cases could be different. Because each test cases can be

customized to different verification level to test different degree or portion of software component based on different configurations as discussed above.

Therefore, verification levels of the test cases can be different.

Claim 9:

Johnson, APA and Ruffolo disclose the method of claim 3, Johnson further discloses wherein a second test case from the one or more test cases is part of the first test group, and wherein third and fourth test cases from the one or more test cases are part of a second test group, the second test group including one or more software testing instructions organized as one or more verification levels within the verification hierarchy, and wherein the verification settings that define the one or more desired verification levels for the one or more test cases also define one or more desired verification levels for the second test group, the method further comprising acts of:

• identifying a portion of the one or more software testing instructions within the second test group that corresponds to the one or more desired verification levels (see for example, p.1, paragraph [0010], "A test iteration engine aligns a test case or set of test cases with a configuration to present a matrix view of one or more test cells that guide testing of an information handling system having the identified configuration, also see Figure 1B, element 26, "Test Iteration", element 28, "Test Plan", element 30, "Configurations" and related text); and

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> running a portion of the second test group that corresponds to the one or more desired verification levels (see for example, Figure 2, step 36 "Project Testing" and related detailed steps and text).

Claim 10:

Johnson, APA and Ruffolo disclose the method of claim 9, but do not explicitly disclose that the verification settings defined verification level for the first/second/third/fourth test cases, the first test group and second test group are different.

However, it <u>would</u> have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to understand that the verification levels of the test cases and test groups can be set to different verification levels, because each test groups comprises one or more test cases, each test cases can be customized to different verification level to test different degree or portion of software component based on different configurations as discussed above.

Therefore, verification levels of the test cases and test groups can be different.

Claim 11:

<u>Johnson</u>, APA and <u>Ruffolo</u> disclose the method of claim 10, <u>Johnson</u> further discloses wherein the first and second test groups are part of a third test group, the third test group including one or more software testing instructions organized

as one or more verification levels within the verification hierarchy, and wherein the verification settings that define the one or more desired verification levels for the one or more test cases also define one or more desired verification levels for the third test group, the method further comprising acts of:

- identifying a portion of the one or more software testing instructions within the second test group that corresponds to the one or more desired verification levels (see for example, p.1, paragraph [0010], "A test iteration engine aligns a test case or set of test cases with a configuration to present a matrix view of one or more test cells that guide testing of an information handling system having the identified configuration, also see Figure 1B, element 26, "Test Iteration", element 28, "Test Plan", element 30, "Configurations" and related text); and
- running a portion of the second test group that corresponds to the one or more desired verification levels (see for example, Figure 2, step 36 "Project Testing" and related detailed steps and text).

Claim 12:

<u>Johnson</u>, APA and <u>Ruffolo</u> disclose the method of claim 9, but do not explicitly disclose that the verification settings define a desired verification level for the third test group different from each of the first test case, the second test case, the third test case, the fourth test case, the first test group and the second test group.

However, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to understand that the verification levels of the test cases and test groups can be set to different verification levels, because each test groups comprises one or more test cases, each test cases can be customized to different verification level to test different degree or portion of software component based on different configurations as discussed above.

Therefore, verification levels of the test cases and test groups can be different.

Claims 23-24:

Claims 23-24 are a computer program product version of claimed method, wherein all claimed limitations have been address and/or set forth above in claims 2-17. Therefore, as the references teach all the limitation of claims 2-17, they also teach the limitations of claims 23-24 respectively. Thus, they also would have been obvious.

Claim 18:

<u>Johnson</u> and <u>APA</u> discloses the method of claim 17, wherein a first test case from the one or more test cases is part of a first or a second test group, the first test group including one or more software testing instructions organized as one or more verification levels within the verification hierarchy, further comprising acts of:

- identifying a portion of the one or more software testing instructions within the first test group that corresponds to the one or more desired verification levels (see for example, p.1, paragraph [0010], "A test iteration engine aligns a test case or set of test cases with a configuration to present a matrix view of one or more test cells that guide testing of an information handling system having the identified configuration, also see Figure 1B, element 26, "Test Iteration", element 28, "Test Plan", element 30, "Configurations" and related text); and
- running a portion of the first test group that corresponds to the one or more desired verification levels (see for example, Figure 2, step 36 "Project
 Testing" and related detailed steps and text)

But does not disclose the verification settings defining a desired verification level for the one or more test cases. However, <u>Ruffolo</u> in the same analogous art of test case generation discloses building different verification level (test items) of test case based on verification settings (distribution list) (see for example, Fig.4, step S406-S412 and relate text). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to define the verification settings for the test case in the configuration file to further customize the verification level of each test case. One would have been motivated to do so to customize each test case for the project as suggested by <u>Johnson</u> (see for example, Figure 2, step 2a of "Project Engineering 34" – "Customize Test Cases for the project").

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Johnson and Ruffolo also do not explicitly disclose the verification level for the first test case is different form a desired verification level for the first test group. However, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to understand that the verification levels of the first test case and first test group could be different. Because each test groups can be customized to different verification level to test different degree or portion of software component based on different configurations as discussed above.

Therefore, verification levels of the test cases and test group can be different.

Claim 19:

Johnson, APA and Ruffolo disclose the method of claim 18, wherein a second test case from the one or more test cases is part of the first test group, but do not explicitly disclose the verification level for the second test case is different form a desired verification level for the first test group. However, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to understand that the verification levels of the first test case and first test group could be different. Because each test groups can be customized to different verification level to test different degree or portion of software component based on different configurations as discussed above. Therefore, verification levels of the test cases and test group can be different.

Claim 20:

Johnson, APA and Ruffolo disclose the method of claim 19, Johnson further discloses wherein verification setting instructions for the desired verification levels define a single verification level for the first and second test cases (see for example, Figure 1B, "Configuration B" of element 30 "Configurations", using single configuration to cover all test cases in "Test Plan 28", also see related text descriptions).

Claims 26-38 and 40:

<u>Claims</u> 26- 38 and 40 are a computer program product version of claimed method in claims 17-20 and 25 above, wherein all claimed limitations have been address and/or set forth above by <u>Johnson</u> and <u>Ruffolo</u>. Therefore, as the references teach all the limitation, they also teach the limitations of claims 25-38 and 40 respectively. Thus, they also would have been obvious.

Claims 42:

Johnson, APA and Ruffolo disclose a [The] method as recited in claim 17, but do not explicitly disclose wherein selection of a third verification level causes verification of the record being inserted as well as verification that the record was only inserted a single time and wherein testing of the software includes running the third verification level. However, Ruffolo in the same analogous art of test case generation discloses building different verification level (test items) of test

case based on verification settings (distribution list) (see for example, Fig.4, step S406-S412 and relate text). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to define the verification settings for the test case in the configuration file to further customize the verification level of each test case including just testing a single time insertion. One would have been motivated to do so to customize each test case for the project as suggested by <u>Johnson</u> (see for example, Figure 2, step 2a of "Project Engineering 34" – "Customize Test Cases for the project").

Claim 43:

Johnson, APA and Ruffolo disclose a [The] method as recited in claim 17, but do not explicitly disclose wherein selection of a third verification level causes verification of the record being inserted as well as verification that the record was inserted without overwriting another record and wherein testing of the software including running the third verification level. However, Ruffolo in the same analogous art of test case generation discloses building different verification level (test items) of test case based on verification settings (distribution list) (see for example, Fig.4, step S406-S412 and relate text). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to define the verification settings for the test case in the configuration file to further customize the verification level of each test case including just testing a single time insertion. One would have been motivated to do so to customize each

test case for the project as suggested by <u>Johnson</u> (see for example, Figure 2, step 2a of "Project Engineering 34" – "Customize Test Cases for the project").

Conclusion

- 12. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.
- 13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Zheng Wei whose telephone number is (571) 270-1059 and Fax number is (571) 270-2059. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 8:00-15:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tuan Q. Dam can be reached on (571) 272-3695. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature of relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the TC 2100 Group receptionist whose telephone number is 571- 272-1000.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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